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Walter wrote a couple of days ago a devastating article against the EDC. I had no chance to talk to him about it but delivered quite an impassioned harangue on this topic to his wife and hope I left her convictions, if not changed, at least shaken. I am to see Walter later in the week.

André de Staercke told me he had for me an official message from Mr. Van Zeeland to the effect that he had things well in hand in the Belgian Parliament and there would be no question about EDC ratification after the debate started on November 10. André thinks that when the new elections, [redacted] probably in February, result in the installation of another Cabinet, Spaak will become Foreign Minister. Some time ago de Staercke expressed some doubt as to whether the King might not, under such conditions, attempt to exclude Spaak, but this hurdle now seems to have been prospectively leaped.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY ecc DATE 7-1-81

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